UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7076

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
BRAZIL

IPF:(1987-91) $17 500 000

(BRA/90/009)-Implementation of the Brazilian Co-operation Agency's Project Administration Unit (Supplementary Assistance)

Date of approval:	12 October 1990
Expected duration:	Two years
Proposed executing agency:	Government of Brazil
Government implementing agency:	Brazilian Co-operating Agency (ABC)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	nil Source of funds: IPF
Government cost sharing:	$100 000
Previous UNDP budget:	$375 500
Total UNDP budget:	$475 500

Project background

Until 1986, most UNDP technical co-operation projects in Brazil were executed by UN System Agencies. During Brazil's Fourth Country Programme (1987-1991), Brazil has accompanied a worldwide trend towards increasing the government execution modality. Starting with three projects in 1985, Brazil now has 54 government-executed projects, making up 71 per cent of all its approved UNDP projects.

In August 1988 a Programme Support Unit was created within the UNDP field office to define procedures to allow the Government to begin assuming responsibility for the administrative support of technical co-operation projects, especially in the needed areas of personnel recruitment and procurement. Late in 1989 a Project Administration Unit was created within ABC for this purpose. Funded by project (BRA/87/041) Institutional Strengthening of ABC, this unit began implementing mechanisms to gradually take on the administration of government-executed projects in Brazil. The ABC Project Administrative Unit began working in co-ordination with the UNDP Programme Support Unit, to allow for a gradual transfer of UNDP's technical capacity to the Government.

Early in 1990 it became apparent that, since the work of the ABC Unit is complex and involves considerable funds, a certain level of autonomy is necessary to permit independent decisions and actions. It was therefore decided that a separate project was needed to support the Unit and to allow it to work most efficiently. To this end, the Government requested UNDP assistance under the present project.

INDIANA

Description of project

The project aims to strengthen the Brazilian Government's capacity, through the Brazilian Co-operation Agency (ABC), to support national, multi-bilateral technical co-operation projects, providing national implementing agencies with the necessary administrative support to improve project execution. This objective conforms to ABC's mandate, which stresses the necessity to co-ordinate and implement technical co-operation programmes according to Brazilian social and economic development guidelines.

Within the two-year duration, the project intends to have installed a project administration unit capable of absorbing UNDP's technical ability in the administration of UNDP-funded, government-executed projects in Brazil. The unit shall train personnel and strengthen ABC's institutional and operational capacity, enabling the Brazilian Government to provide suitable administrative support to project implementing agencies for effective project execution.

Outputs of the project will include initial installation of the Unit in UNDP local facilities, development of Unit work routines, and experimental administration of three government-executed projects. Later steps will include automation of the Unit, including a computer network, and the take-over of responsibility for all government-executed projects (planned for 30 June 1991), along with regular reporting of results to UNDP and ABC. By the end of the project, the Brazilian Government should have acquired the necessary expertise and qualified personnel, and the Unit should be incorporated in the Government's institutional structure.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a national project co-ordinator for 16.5 man-months, a short-term national consultant for 12 man-months; administrative personnel; official travel and non-expendable equipment, including a network of 14 micro computers, a Nobreak system, an Epson LX-810 printer, four Epson LQ 1050 printers, and a Toshiba Laptop computer with modem.

Financial data

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Personnel	354 500
Equipment	88 000
Miscellaneous	33 000
Total	475 500

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